NEWS RELEASE

WWW.TN.GOV/ECD



COMMUNICATIONS OFFICE 312 ROSA L. PARKS AVENUE NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37243-1102

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 23, 2013

Media Contact: Erin Holt, ECD

Office: (615) 532-1925 **Email:** <u>erin.s.holt@tn.gov</u>

NHK SEATING OF AMERICA ANNOUNCES CONTINUED EXPANSION OF MURFREESBORO FACILITY

Automotive Supplier to Invest \$6.8 Million, Create 94 Jobs

NASHVILLE – Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development Commissioner Bill Hagerty along with NHK Seating of America, Inc. officials announced plans to expand their facility on Joe B. Jackson Parkway in Murfreesboro, Tenn. NHK's continued expansion represents a \$6.8 million investment and will create approximately 94 new jobs in Rutherford County.

"Tennessee continues to prove our business-friendly environment is the ideal climate for advanced manufacturing companies to succeed," Hagerty said. "NHK Seating of America is not only growing but thriving thanks to a highly skilled and available workforce and one of the lowest tax burdens in the country."

"NHK Seating of America, Inc. continues to add associates and capital equipment to support increasing production volume at our facility in Murfreesboro. Corporate management would like to acknowledge our appreciation for the continuing support of the community leaders of Murfreesboro and Rutherford County," NHK Seating Murfreesboro Plant Manager Fred Myers said. "We have been able to meet our milestone objectives to date and are pleased with the quality of our associates, both in management and production most of whom came to us from the local community. NHK is excited about the continued growth and business with our partners in Tennessee and look forward to a long business relationship."

"Since they came to Rutherford County in 2010, NHK has been a great business partner," Rutherford County Chamber of Commerce President Paul Latture said. "We congratulate them on their expansion, which will add 94 new jobs to our community."

NHK plans to add a robotic weld cell that will use robots to manufacture automotive seat structures at the Murfreesboro facility. NHK's investment will go toward installation of this equipment as well as the possibility of additional space for shipping and receiving.

About NHK Seating of America, Inc.

NHK Seating of America, Inc. is a world-class manufacturer of automotive seats and safety units in North America. With a fully integrated production line, innovative cutting-edge technologies and product development capability on the site, we offer highest quality seats with superior comfort and safety. NHK completed construction of its Murfreesboro plant in 2011, where currently 81 people are employed.

About the Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development

The Tennessee Department of Economic and Community Development's mission is to develop strategies, which help make Tennessee the No. 1 location in the Southeast for high quality jobs. The department seeks to attract new corporate investment in Tennessee and works with Tennessee companies to facilitate expansion and economic growth. Find us on the web: tn.gov/ecd. Follow us on Twitter: @tnecd. Like us on Facebook: facebook.com/tnecd.

###